



February 5, 2013

Anthony Herman  
General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
999 E Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20463

MUR # 6723

OFFICE OF THE  
COMMISSIONER

2013 FEB 13 PM 12:53

FEDERAL ELECTION  
COMMISSION

Re: Ami Bera, Ami Bera for Congress, & House Majority PAC

Dear Mr. Herman:

Please accept this letter as a Complaint against Ami Bera, Ami Bera for Congress, and House Majority PAC ("HMPAC") for operating in violation of Federal Election Commission ("FEC") regulations, and more specifically, for accepting a prohibited corporate contribution as set forth in 11 CFR § 114.2.

Ami Bera is Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, representing California's 7th Congressional District, running for election in 2014 ("Candidate"). Ami Bera for Congress is the authorized principal campaign committee for Ami Bera ("the Campaign").

House Majority PAC ("HMPAC") is an independent expenditure-only committee that also makes independent expenditures on behalf of Federal candidates.

On January 29, 2013, HMPAC featuring various Members of Congress thanking HMPAC for its involvement in their 2012 federal campaigns ("the Video"). Ami Bera is one of the Members of Congress appearing in the Video. There is text at the end of the Video that invites viewers to "Go to [www.thehousemajoritypac.com](http://www.thehousemajoritypac.com) to learn more about our work and join our efforts."

Committees that solicit and accept unlimited contributions from individuals, political committees, corporations and labor organizations for the purpose of making independent expenditures are prohibited from making direct contributions to federal political committees. See *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, 130 S. Ct. 876, 901 (2010) (noting that *Buckley v. Valeo* first upheld the FECA's limits on direct contributions to candidates to protect against the government interest in the prevention of corruption and the appearance of corruption"). The FEC defines a "contribution" to include "any gift, subscription, loan, advance, or deposit of money or anything of value made by a person for the purpose of influencing any election for Federal office" (emphasis added).

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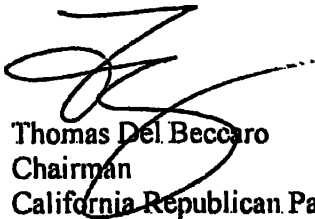
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Because Ami Bera appeared in the Video, which has been distributed widely since posted on YouTube, it is impossible to argue that the Video is considered to be something of value to Raul Ruiz and his campaign committee. Thus, because it is a contribution, the cost of creating the Video is an in-kind contribution to the Campaign. HMPAC is prohibited from making direct or in-kind contributions to federal campaign committees. Furthermore, Ami Bera and the Campaign are prohibited from receiving contributions unless subject to the limitations, prohibitions and reporting requirements, and received from permission sources, which HMPAC is not. The cost of the Video is an illegal contribution to Ami Bera and the Campaign.

Upon information and belief, and based upon the facts discussed above, Ami Bera, Ami Bera for Congress, and House Majority PAC have violated Federal Election Commission Regulations. We would respectfully ask that the FEC investigate the conduct set out herein and, if appropriate, impose the maximum penalty under law.

The foregoing is correct and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

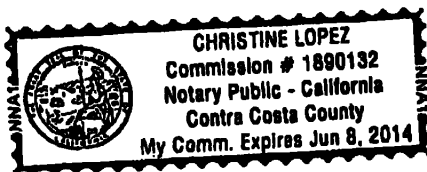
Respectfully submitted,

  
Thomas Del Beccaro  
Chairman  
California Republican Party

CC: Charles H. Bell, counsel

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5 day of February, 2013

  
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Notary Public



My Commission Expires: 6-8-14